

## CUBAN REPUBLIC MAY LAST

HAVANA THINKS IT GOOD FOR SOME YEARS AT LEAST.

Liberal Factional Greed and Foreign Desire for U. S. Government in its Great Danger—Strongly Entrenched in Wise New Laws—Educational Work.

HAVANA, Nov. 19.—The wonderful good order which marked last Saturday's elections the most successful ever known to Cuba, combined with the overwhelming victory of the Liberal party, which takes in the entire revolutionary element, has created a feeling of hopefulness and confidence such as has not existed in Cuba for several years.

The new republic, which will be established on January 28, 1909, when Gen. José Miguel Gómez will be inaugurated as President, will probably last several years, most likely until after the next Presidential election. For years Gómez has been fighting for that which he now has, and he has the sense and sand to keep it. Furthermore, the Conservatives, although some of them accept defeat rather bitterly, are not from the class that produces revolutionaries. The Liberals, on the other hand, are a revolutionary class, and it isn't likely that there will be another growth for some years.

During the administration of the Provisional Government the constant endeavor has been to impress upon the Cuban mind a sense of public duty, righteousness and political squareness, to correct the glaring faults of the organization of the Government which were so plainly shown when the Palma Government was overthrown in 1906, and to provide as many safeguards as possible to insure the success of Cuba's second trial at self-government. The task has been tremendous. The rebuilding of a ship of state in a couple of years is no simple thing. Only time can tell whether the hard, disagreeable and unselfish work of Gov. Magón, of the American army officers who are his immediate assistants in the civil government, and of the Army of Cuban Pacification will be rewarded with the success that it deserves. Many observers here do not believe the Cubans are yet ready for another trial. Perhaps they are not, but present conditions are such that the attempt is worth making.

The Americans have done or will do everything conceivable to remedy defects and to teach the Cubans to follow the straight and narrow path. They have believed that so far as artificial conditions go, the new republic is a simple thing. Only time can tell whether the hard, disagreeable and unselfish work of Gov. Magón, of the American army officers who are his immediate assistants in the civil government, and of the Army of Cuban Pacification will be rewarded with the success that it deserves. Many observers here do not believe the Cubans are yet ready for another trial. Perhaps they are not, but present conditions are such that the attempt is worth making.

At the present time there is apparently but one tangible danger threatening the Government of Gómez and that can scarcely be called real. It lies in the fact that the Liberal party, as it now stands, is a coalition. Last summer the two factions of Liberals, one led by José Miguel Gómez, the President-elect, and one by Dr. Alfredo Zayas, the Vice-President-elect, participated in one of the bitterest political campaigns the island has ever known. This factional quarrel ended on August 1 when the Conservatives had unexpected success at the polls. The Conservative victory was due to the splitting of the Liberal votes. It was enough to frighten the Liberals, and within a few weeks after the election an agreement was reached and the two factions got together and went into the Presidential campaign with vigor, finally winning on November 14.

Gómez has promised Zayas that he will not be a candidate in 1912 and that Zayas shall have the place. In the meantime, however, the Zayas will probably not receive what he will believe to be a proper number of offices as a reward for their efforts in the revolution of 1903 and in the recent campaign which gave Gómez the Presidency. Naturally enough when Zayas was running for the Presidency independently he promised many offices. Gómez promised the same offices to his followers, and the result has been a conflict of interests and promises that will be difficult of adjustment.

There is a feeling throughout the country also that the natives may be stirred up to revolt by foreign interests. Beyond all question foreigners, including Americans, English, Spaniards and others, would rather have the American flag in Cuba than an independent government, and at some more or less remote date some of these foreigners may incite a revolution which will bring another intervention.

The one great thing that will work toward preventing an unstable government here is not discussed much, especially by the official organs of the present American Government. This is the general feeling, which Americans generally make no effort to dispel, that if the American Government is again forced to send an army into Cuba it will be for food, or at least for such an indefinite period as to make immediate benefits from a revolution impossible.

Under the direction of Col. E. H. Crowder, U. S. A., who is more responsible for the general success of this intervention than any other man, the Provisional Government, composed of representatives of all political parties and three Americans besides, has drawn up a number of new laws, which, if properly applied, will do much toward making the Cuban government live. The commission has worked since the winter of 1906 and has compiled a number of enactments that will be of vast benefit to the country. Col. Crowder profited by events of the past, and now Cuba is equipped in splendid fashion.

Of the many laws adopted by the advisory commission and put into force by Gov. Magón's decree the electoral law is undoubtedly the most important. Under this law two elections have been held on August 1 and the Presidential and Congressional last Saturday. Both of these elections were more successful than any others ever held in the island, and both were admittedly fair. The law is a cumbersome one than that of any other country, but Col. Crowder believed that every possible precaution should be taken, and he assumed the task of criticism without hesitation because of the peculiar conditions which exist here.

Under two trials it is found that the law needs changing in only one or two details. This will be done by decree of Gov. Magón, and then the Cubans will have an electoral law as nearly perfect for local conditions as can be devised. While the law is properly applied it will meet all conditions that it is possible as with any known law that it will be violated.

## PARSIFAL WELL PERFORMED

FOLLOWED BY "LA BOHEME" IN THE EVENING.

Two Thanksgiving Operas at the Metropolitan—Wagner's Last Work Presented Before an Absorbed Audience—Puccini and Donizetti Pack the House.

Perhaps New York is not yet transformed into a Bayreuth, but it preserves its original reverence for Wagner's "Parsifal." The last work of the great German master was given yesterday, beginning at 1 P. M., and naturally lasting till a late hour. It was heard by a large and absorbed audience. The hearers were in their seats early, and it was not more than ten minutes after the advertised hour when the great prelude began. There was some movement in the house during the first quarter of an hour of the performance, but after that the attitude was one of rapt attention, and in the scene of the unveiling of the Grail the audience sat in strained interest.

There was an outbreak of applause at the end of the first act, a demonstration quite unusual. At the conclusion of the second act the recalls were numerous. In short, the music drama made an impression which it has made at every previous presentation in this city. The performance of yesterday was one of high merit. None of the new principals effaced memories of their predecessors, but they fitted themselves harmoniously into a general interpretation which was deep in spirit and eloquent in expression.

Mme. Fremstad was again Kundry, but there was a new Parsifal in the person of Erik Schmedes, a new Amfortas in Fritz Feinhals, a new Gurnemanz in Allan Hinkley and a new Titurel in Herbert Witherspoon. The new solo flower maidens were Leonora Sparkes, Rita Fornia, Rosina van Dyck, Isabelle L'Huilier, Marie Matfield and Henrietta Wakefield. Otto Goritz assumed his old rôle of Klingsor.

The one impersonation which failed to rise to the general excellence of the presentation was the Parsifal of Mr. Schmedes. He acted the part tolerably, but his voice was unequal to the demands of the music. Mme. Fremstad's Kundry grows in depth and psychic expression. It was a remarkable impersonation yesterday, sung with extreme refinement and finish of phrase, and its content communicated to the audience with a minimum of effort and a maximum of effect.

Mr. Feinhals is better suited to some other rôle than to Amfortas, but he proved himself a conscientious and intelligent interpreter of the spirit of the work. The flower girls sang very well indeed. The chorus of the Grail knights had never before been so well given at the Metropolitan, and the new German chorus has some claims to rivalry with that of Bayreuth. The orchestra was employed in its full number and the body of tone was rich and beautiful, yet not overpowering.

Alfred Hertz conducted the work, as he has since his first performance in this country, and he added yesterday to the credit which he had already gained. The stage management was excellent in every respect and the entire performance was honorable to the new directors of the house. While such things can be said of the splendid traditions of the Metropolitan are safe.

In the evening Puccini's sempernal "La Bohème" was sung. Mr. Bonci, who had been unable to sing in earlier performances by reason of illness, made his first appearance of the season as Rodolfo. The part is one well suited to his style, and throughout his music his fluent cantilena and exquisite phrasing are most satisfying. He was warmly welcomed, and showered with applause at the ends of the acts.

Mr. Bonci's Mimi was Mme. Sembrich, who sings this rôle's most delightfully. With such a soprano and such a tenor the performance could not fail to have elements interesting to the audience, which was one of great size, crowding the house in every part.

It is a pity that the entire presentation of "La Bohème" was not up to the level reached by the soprano and tenor. Mr. Rossi and Mr. Didur are not unattractive Bohemians, and while Mr. Amato sings Marcello admirably and acts him with spirit, he is not altogether convincing. As for Mr. Spetrino, the conductor, perhaps he has not recovered from the shock of his accident, but he certainly failed to keep things together all the time.

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## IT SETS THE PAGE

THE OUTING PUBLISHING CO., NEW YORK

## NEWS OF PLAYS AND PLAYERS.

Miss Adams to Come to the Empire Dec. 21—New Things for the Hippodrome.

Charles Frohman announces that Monday, December 21, has been fixed upon for the commencement of Miss Maude Adams' annual engagement of eight weeks at the Empire Theatre in the new J. M. Barrie play, "What Every Woman Knows."

M. C. Anderson of Messrs. Shubert & Anderson, managers of the Hippodrome, returned yesterday from Europe on the Adriatic. While abroad he visited every circus on the Continent and secured a number of acts for the Hippodrome this season. He arranged to have every new act presented in circuses, large or small, on the other side reported by cable to him in this city. To this will be added the endorsement of the agent who has viewed the act. Mr. Anderson went directly to the Hippodrome, where he was gratified by seeing the biggest matinee the house has ever played.

Charles Frohman has cabled his New York offices from London that no further tour is to be booked for William Collier in "The Patriot." Mr. Frohman has completed arrangements for the appearance of William Collier and the present cast of "The Patriot" at the Comedy Theatre in London in the spring.

Memorial Service for Frank Melville. The Hippodrome company will hold a memorial meeting at the Seventy-first Regiment armory this morning to pay their last tribute to Frank Melville, equestrian director of the playhouse, who died on Monday. The Elks will conduct the first part of the service, and representatives of the Hippodrome also will participate. The music will be rendered by the Hippodrome orchestra. Mr. Melville's body will be sent to Florida, where his son is buried.

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## President Roosevelt says

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